

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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July 24, 2007

The Honorable David E. Power, Presiding Judge
Superior Court, State of California, County of Solano
Hall of Justice
530 Union Avenue
Fairfield, CA 94533

Dear Judge Power:

Under Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05, the Board of Supervisors is responding to the findings and recommendations in the following 2006/2007 Grand Jury Reports as they pertain to matters under the control of the Board of Supervisors:

- Part I – Solano County Justice Center Detention Facility Inspection;
- Part II – Solano Justice Building Court Holding Facility – Vallejo;
- Part III – Claybank Detention Facility;
- Part IV – Solano County Veterans' Buildings;
- Part V – Solano County Health & Social Services Department In-Home Supportive Services;
- Part VI – Fouts Springs Youth Facilities;
- Part VII – Solano County Food Establishment Inspection;
- Part VIII – Permission to Carry a Concealed Weapon;
- Part IX – Juvenile Detention and New Foundations Facilities; and
- Part X – Solano County Animal Care Services.

The Board's responses are limited to those areas of the respective reports where the County of Solano has responsibility and authority.

In this response, the Grand Jury Findings and Recommendations are listed followed by departmental and then Board of Supervisors' responses.

Sincerely,


Michael J. Reagan, Chairman
Solano County Board of Supervisors

Enclosures

Cc: Grand Jury

Part IX

Juvenile Detention and New Foundations Facilities

Issued May 23, 2007

Solano County Chief Probation Officer and Board of Supervisors responses to findings and recommendations:

Finding 1 – On the day of our visit both facilities appeared clean, neat, and well organized.

Recommendation 1 – Solano County Probation Department should continue to keep up the good work.

Probation's Response to Finding and Recommendation 1 – Concur.

Board of Supervisors' Response to Finding and Recommendation 1 – The Board of Supervisors agrees with the Department's response to the Grand Jury's finding and recommendation.

Finding 2 – On the day of our inspection, Juvenile Hall was overcrowded.

Recommendation 2 – Solano County Probation Department should review processes and procedures for all juvenile facilities they administer to avoid overcrowding.

Probation's Response to Finding and Recommendation 2 – Probation agrees with this finding and the recommendation has been implemented. Probation continually reviews processes and procedures to avoid overcrowding. A trend toward increased population was identified early in 2006. This trend continued reaching a peak in October 2006. Once it was determined that the increased population was a long term trend rather than a spike, the Department requested authorization from the Board of Supervisors to reopen the Challenge Unit. Authorization to open 20 beds was approved on February 27, 2007.

Board of Supervisors' Response to Finding and Recommendation 2 – The Board of Supervisors agrees with the Department's response to the Grand Jury's finding and recommendation. Board approval of funding and staffing of the Challenge Unit provides sufficient resources for the Department to address spikes in population at Juvenile Hall.

Finding 3 – Minors released to society are not tracked.

Probation's Response to Finding 3 – Probation disagrees partially. Solano County Probation currently collects substantial data for those minors participating in programs funded by grants such as the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA).

Board of Supervisors' Response to Finding 3 – The Board of Supervisors agrees with the Department's response to the Grand Jury finding. Probation has implemented the collection of data on juveniles to better evaluate the outcomes of programs and services provided by the County.

Recommendation 3 – Solano County Probation Department should track the success or failure of minors in order to measure the effectiveness of the programs they administer.

Probation's Response to Recommendation 3 –The recommendation has been implemented with regard to programs funded by grants such as JJCPA. With regard to other programs, the recommendation will be implemented by FY 2008-2009. The Department is currently working with other probation departments through the Chief Probation Officers of California to implement standardized outcome measures for juvenile and adult probation.

Board of Supervisors' Response to Recommendation 3 – The Board of Supervisors agrees with the Department's response to the Grand Jury's recommendation.